

SEPTEMBER 2009

TAKE ACTION!

GVF Transportation's Monthly Corporate Newsletter

Volume 2, Issue 8

September 22 is World Carfree Day!

World Carfree Day is an annual celebration of cities and public life, free from the noise, stress and pollution of cars. Every September 22, people from around the world get together in the streets and neighborhoods to celebrate World Carfree Day and to remind the world that we don't have to accept our car-dominated societies.



World Carfree Day, promoted and supported by the World Carfree Network, is intended to advance the economic, social and environmental benefits of self-propelled or mass transportation. It is meant to promote more sustainable ways of transportation and new ways of building and thinking the urbanism of our cities, allowing streets to be a living space, rather than only a transit space.

With the global economy in freefall, carmakers are facing turbulent times and people around the world are re-evaluating their relationship with the car. So now is the perfect timing to try out the alternatives, spread the carfree word, join or start a World Carfree Day in your area! It is also time to push for a new use of car factories that could be used to build public transportation, providing employment and allowing us to build a better urban environment.

Before the 10th anniversary of World Carfree Day next year, let the 2009 edition be a showcase for how our cities might look like, feel like, and sound like without cars 365 days a year!

GVF Transportation Welcomes New Partner Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine

GVF Transportation is pleased to announce that the Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine (PCOM) has joined the list of 100-plus partners dedicated to decreasing congestion and increasing mobility throughout the region.

For more than a century, Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine has trained highly competent, caring physicians, health practitioners and behavioral scientists who practice a "whole person" approach, treating people, not just symptoms. PCOM offers the doctor of osteopathic medicine degree and graduate programs in psychology, physician assistant studies, forensic medicine, organizational development and leadership, and biomedical sciences. Our students learn the importance of health promotion, education and service to the community and, through PCOM's five Healthcare Centers, provide care to the medically underserved populations in inner city and rural locations. For more information about PCOM, visit www.pcom.edu.

PENNDOT Launches 511 System

As of Friday, Sept. 4, Pennsylvania travelers can take their "Travel Info to Go" as PennDOT officially launches its 511 system — 511PA. 511PA provides free, 24-hour information services including traffic delay warnings, weather forecasts, regional tourism information, and links to transit agencies and major airports. The service is available by calling 511 from cellular phones and landlines or through the Internet by visiting www.511PA.com.



"Travelers log nearly 295 million miles on Pennsylvania roads each day and although the resources are simply not available to build our way out of traffic congestion, 511PA offers reliable information to help travelers make smart planning decisions and minimize travel delays," PennDOT Secretary Allen D. Biehler, P.E. said.

Users are also able to register through the Web site to receive personalized traveler alerts, provided through e-mail and text messaging.

The 511PA roadway network includes all 1,759 miles of interstate including the Pennsylvania Turnpike, as well as other major roadways in Harrisburg, Philadelphia and Pittsburgh. Traffic information for the majority of this network includes incident reports such as crashes, construction activities and, starting in November, winter road conditions.

Additionally, average traffic speeds are available for several interstates and other major roadways in urban areas.

To provide the most reliable information, 511PA will be updated as PennDOT verifies that an incident is occurring either through its network of more than 440 traffic cameras or through confirmed reports from state and local police. Crashes and other delays beyond PennDOT's control, such as vehicle breakdowns, are not available on the system immediately, and travelers may encounter traffic delays before that information is posted on 511PA.

PennDOT encourages motorists to not call 511PA while driving. Callers should safely pull off the road to call the system, or check for travel delays before heading out.

PennDOT will continue to enhance 511PA and travelers are encouraged to provide feedback on the system by visiting www.511PA.com.

The Federal Communications Commission designated 511 as the nationwide three-digit telephone number for traveler information. Pennsylvania joins 35 states that already have established 511 services.

Reminder: The next **Climate Change Task Force** meeting will be held on **Wednesday, September 23rd** at 9am at the Upper Merion Township Building. Michael Boyer, DVRPC, will present the recently adopted long-range plan for the Greater Philadelphia region, Connections – The Regional Plan for a Sustainable Future.



The plan puts forth a blueprint to attain a more sustainable future with an emphasis on managing growth, protecting resources, creating livable communities, building a more energy-efficient economy, and identifying transportation improvements for the next twenty-five years to achieve a modern, multi-modal transportation system. Following the presentation, the audience will break-out into smaller groups to discuss how the region can meet the target of reducing greenhouse gas emissions by 50 percent by 2035. If you are interested in attending, please RSVP to [Lauren Peak](#).

SAVE THE DATE:

2009 Transportation Conference
Monday, November 2, 2009
7:30 a.m.
Crowne Plaza, King of Prussia

GVF Transportation

Web sites:

www.gvftma.com

www.phillytraffic.com

www.localroads.com

www.us202.com

www.422coalition.com

www.smtcoalition.com

www.svtransportation.com

www.midatlanticchapter.com

www.422improvements.com

<http://phillytraffic.blogspot.com>

[http://www.youtube.com/
GVFTransportation](http://www.youtube.com/GVFTransportation)

[https://twitter.com/
US422Coalition](https://twitter.com/US422Coalition)

www.422corridor.com

<http://twitter.com/GVFHenry>

[http://www.flickr.com/photos/
gvf_transportation](http://www.flickr.com/photos/gvf_transportation)

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